

REMARKS

This application is a U.S. national phase, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §371, of international application No. PCT/US2004/013703, published in English on November 18, 2004 as international publication No. WO 2004/098522 A2, which claims the benefit of U.S. provisional patent application Ser. No. 60/466,638, filed April 30, 2003. Page 1 of the specification has been amended to reflect this information.

The instant application is related to a national phase application filed on even date herewith, attorney Docket No. 60756DIV2(49949), Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 711312153 US ("the 60756DIV2 application") of the same PCT application (*i.e.*, PCT/US2004/013703, "the parent PCT application").

The instant Preliminary Amendment is being filed to divide claimed subject matter contained in the parent PCT application. Thus, claims 37-46, 48-63, 65-77, 79, 81, 83-84, 86-88, 92-97, 100 and 103 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 21, 24, 34, 36, 47, 64, 78, 80, 82, 85, 89, 91, 98 and 101 have been amended.

Accordingly, claims 1-36, 47, 64, 78, 80, 82, 85, 89-91, 98, 99, 101 and 102 are presented for examination. In effect, the instant application and the 60756DIV2 application are divisionals of the parent PCT application.

Claim cancellations and amendments were made to divide claimed subject matter contained in the parent PCT application and to otherwise reduce the number of claims and eliminate multiple claim dependencies, for the purpose of reducing the excess claims fees, and to correct minor typographical errors. No new matter has been added. Applicants hereby reserve the right to pursue the claims as originally filed, or similar claims, in one or more patent applications.

Applicants respectfully request early examination on the merits and allowance of the application. If it would be helpful for consideration of this Preliminary Amendment and/or to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: October 19, 2005